

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO YOUNG STAFF MEMBERS FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE OF THE 18TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF TEXAS AND THE UNITED STATES

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2022

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, in these tumultuous days of crisis and challenge, Members of Congress know well, perhaps better than most, how blessed our Nation is to have in reserve such exceptional young men and women who will go on to become leaders in their local communities, states, and the nation in the areas of business, education, law, government, philanthropy, the arts and culture, and the military.

We know this because we see them and benefit from their contributions every day. Many of them work for us in our offices as junior staff members, congressional fellows, or interns and they do amazing work for and on behalf of the constituents we are privileged to represent.

Madam Speaker, I believe there is no higher calling than the call to serve a cause larger than ourselves. That is why I ran for public office. I was inspired to serve by President Kennedy who said, "Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country," and by the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. who said:

"Everybody can be great because anybody can serve. . . . You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love."

By this measure, there are several other great young men and women who served as volunteers this year in my offices. They brave the dangers of the pandemic that has wrought so much suffering and heartbreak across our nation. They cheerfully do their duty in the U.S. Capitol complex that just over one year ago was the site of an insurrection attack not seen since the War of 1812. These dedicated and public-spirited men and women may toil in obscurity but their contributions to the constituents we serve are deeply appreciated. That is why today I rise to pay tribute to five extraordinary young persons for their service to my constituents in the 18th Congressional District of Texas and to the American people. They are:

Alexander Nordahl, University of Houston;
Shania Jackson, Texas Tech University;
Laura Rincon-Bianchi, University of Houston;

Jordan Webster, Howard University; and
Ayana Ahuja, The Madeira School.

Madam Speaker, the energy, intelligence, and idealism these wonderful young people brought to my office and those interning in the offices of my colleagues help keep our democracy vibrant. The insights, skills, and knowledge of the governmental process they gain from their experiences will last a lifetime and

prove invaluable to them as they go about making their mark in this world.

Because of persons like them the future of our country is bright, and its best days lie ahead. I wish them all well.

Madam Speaker, I am grateful that such thoughtful committed young men and women can be found working in my office, those of my colleagues, and in every community in America. Their good works will keep America great, good, and forever young.

HOMETOWN HERO—RAYFIELD WRIGHT

HON. BETH VAN DUYN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2022

Ms. VAN DUYN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of North Texas legend, Rayfield Wright, who passed away last week.

Rayfield was a long-time player for the Dallas Cowboys, marking his legacy as a hall of famer both on and off the field.

During his time with the Cowboys, Rayfield earned the iconic nickname "Big Cat" for his ability on his feet, despite his looming size. He helped lead the Cowboys in the 70's, winning an impressive five NFC championships and two Super Bowls along the way.

After thirteen seasons and an incredible 200+ games, Rayfield was rightfully inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame. His fellow Cowboys legend, Roger Staubach put it simply, "he was absolutely the best."

But his story did not end there, in fact far from it. Rayfield went on to put the same love and energy that he put into football, into his community.

Just last year, Rayfield put on a charity golf tournament outside Fort Worth to provide much needed relief to the community during the pandemic. Proceeds from the tournament went to a local food bank and first responders.

I thank Rayfield for always putting North Texas first, and inspiring us on the field and in the community. DFW will always remember his legacy; may he rest in peace.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF RITA BROCK-PERINI

HON. RUBEN GALLEGO

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2022

Mr. GALLEGO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember and celebrate the life of Rita Brock-Perini, who passed away in April. Rita was the first woman in her family to join the military, and she dedicated her life to service and inspired many—including myself—to do more in support of our Nation's veterans.

Rita was born in Phoenix in 1938 as one of ten children. After graduating from St. Mary's

High School, she earned her nursing degree and spent ten years working as a nurse before becoming a captain in the Air Force Nursing Corps, serving during one of the most violent periods of the Vietnam war. As one of the more experienced nurses, she cared for not only the soldiers wounded in war, but for her fellow nurses as well. Rita left the Air Force in 1971 to take a job with the American Red Cross, continuing her service to those in need.

Even after retiring in 2003, Rita never lost her passion for service. She became Vice President of the Veterans Medical Leadership Council (VMLC), an organization dedicated to ensuring quality care for veterans in Maricopa County. At VMLC, Rita managed the Returning Warriors program, which worked with the local VA to provide emergency services to veterans.

I am lucky to have been able to consider Rita a friend. She was one of the first people to welcome me to the American Legion when I moved to Phoenix as a young veteran, and I will never forget her kindness and support. My thoughts and prayers are with her family, friends, and our community. She will be greatly missed.

ASSET SEIZURE FOR UKRAINE RECONSTRUCTION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 27, 2022

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 6930 the Asset Seizure for Ukraine Reconstruction Act, which authorizes the President to, subject to certain conditions, seize assets belonging to a foreign person whose wealth is derived in part through political support for or corruption linked to Russian President Vladimir Putin.

In the two years that follow this bill's enactment, the President may seize assets if Russia remains engaged in a conflict of territorial conquest in Ukraine; the President has imposed sanctions on the owner of the assets for reasons related to corruption, human rights violations, malign influence, or conflicts in Ukraine; and the assets are valued at over \$5 million.

The seized assets may be liquidated, and the resulting funds may only be used for specified purposes, including the post-conflict reconstruction of Ukraine, humanitarian assistance and refugee support for the Ukrainian people, weapons for Ukraine's uniformed military forces, and humanitarian and development assistance for the Russian people.

There is no question of whether the Russian Federation, under the direction of Vladimir Putin, has been defying the laws of war throughout their unprovoked, unjust, and unlawful invasion of Ukraine.

In the three decades since gaining independence, Ukraine has sought closer economic, social, and political ties with the free market and democratic nations of the West.

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